

MAY

ARCHIVES/COLLECTION MAN 1-1-2004
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...essey
celebrates his
first birthday



INSIDE
ZC's Amanda
Perry named
Bryant-Jordan
scholar athlete



INSIDE
Elba golfers earn
honors at South
Carolina golf
tournament



The Elba Clipper

Volume 106, Number 46 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, May 1, 2003 1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 2 Adv. Inserts

During Coffee County Commission meeting Sheriff explains spare vehicle usage

by Linda Hodge, Editor

An open discussion with Coffee County Sheriff Ben Moates highlighted the regular bimonthly meeting Monday, April 28, of the Coffee County Commission.

During the previous meeting of the commission, it was requested that Moates be present at Monday's meeting to discuss spare sheriff's department vehicles and the amount of dollars spent on maintenance for those vehicles.

Last year alone, the county spent over \$50,000 in maintenance on sheriff's department vehicles, and according to the budget update report given by the county administrator at the last commission meeting, the department is nearing its budget amount already this year.

Moates presented commissioners with his own breakdown concerning the vehicles and usage, and he said every vehicle assigned to the sheriff's department with the exception of one is currently being used for something or is awaiting to be assigned for use.

Specifically, he spoke about the jail suburban, jail van, sheriff's office truck, reserve vehicle and cars number 1, 6 and 21.

Moates said the jail suburban is assigned to the jail for transportation of supplies, especially food items. He said something such as a load of bread can require a lot of space, and the suburban provides the needed space to transport these type items.

He said the jail van is used to transport a large number of inmates at one time, and car number 21 is used by the jail to transport inmates to doctor appointments, court, etc. Moates said car number 21 is driven only by correction officers from the jail.

He said the sheriff's office truck, which is a four wheel drive, is used to go places the other vehicles will not go. For

instance, the sheriff spoke of a party his deputies broke up under Weeks Bridge. He said this area was very muddy, and the officers would not have been able to get down there without the use of the four wheel drive truck.

Moates said the reserve vehicle is assigned to the one certified reserve deputy the department currently has assisting it. He said this person donates his time to the department without any pay, and he uses the vehicle while assisting the county.

As for cars number 1 and 6, the sheriff said these vehicles are used as backup vehicles. He said any time one of the regular patrol units is in need of maintenance, it is good to have dependable backup cars to use.

After explaining the designated use for each of the vehicles, Moates did say the deputies have indicated they feel car number 1 is ready for disposal considering the amount of maintenance work it requires to keep ready.

Harrison appointed by City Council to serve on board of Elba Public Library

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council members heard good news of revenue exceeding budget expectations Monday evening during their regular meeting.

While the word of increased income was sweet to their ears, the down side was expenses in several departments were also higher than expected. Elba Mayor James Grimes didn't express undue concern over the increased expenses, noting that some were because of one time expenses that would balance out over the next six months.

Revenue for the first six months was \$1,490,934, or \$209,409 above expectations. A portion of that was higher than planned transfers from the

"Personally, when I got this (budget update list from county administrator), I was blown away," Commissioner Jim Thompson said. "I'm not pointing fingers at you (sheriff) or these individuals (deputies), but something has got to be done about the amount of money being spent for maintenance."

Thompson specifically asked about one sheriff's deputy vehicle which had two sets of tires mounted within one month; however, Moates was not able to offer an explanation because he said he had not had the opportunity to discuss it with that deputy.

Overall, Thompson said he would like to see the department look at disposing some vehicles when the county purchases new ones. Also, he said he would like to see the sheriff's department work towards getting grants for new vehicles if at all possible.

Please See CCC, Page 3

Water and Electric Board but about \$40,000 was from increases in sales tax revenues.

Grimes reported that the City would be participating in the National Day of Prayer on Thursday (today) of this week. The event will be held at City Hall.

Jimmy Harrison was appointed to a position on the Elba Library Board, replacing Mrs. Carolyn Brunson, who asked to be allowed to step down from her long time service to the public library. The decisions to accept her resignation and Harrison's appointment were unanimous.

Mayor Grimes received permission from the council to seek bids on removing the growing timber on the East side of Elba's Carl Folsom airport. Bids received will be presented to the council for acceptance. Grimes said an agreement with the Airport Authority would hold any revenue received from the timber sale in the bank and earmarked for use on needed resurfacing of the airport runway.

Council members reviewed a report from the consulting engineer indicating the sewer lagoon was operating well within guidelines set by the State of Alabama. Each member signed a letter approving submitting the report to the appropriate state agencies.

Season ends at home for Elba Tigers



Spirits were high Monday afternoon, April 28, in Elba as the Tigers hosted Holtville in the second round of the high school state baseball playoffs; however, the team's season came to an abrupt end following an unexpected call at third base. The Tigers entered the seventh inning trailing 6-0 but rallied to 6-4 before a base runner was called safe then out at third base to end the rally, inning and game. Despite this heartbreaking call, the hometown team gave the crowd plenty to cheer about with good pitching from senior Brandon Petty and defensive efforts from the field. Above, Petty swings and misses a pitch early in the game, but he later ripped a pitch to bring in two runs during the seventh inning rally attempt. Although this game ended the season for Elba's baseball team, the Elba Lady Tigers will continue to work towards a state title this weekend as the team travels to Thomasville to participate in the Class 3A, Section 1 Softball Tournament. Details from this tournament can be found next week in the sports section of The Elba Clipper.

Friends of Elba Public Library host special event

FRIENDS OF ELBA PUBLIC LIBRARY (FOEPL) will host a reception in the community room of the library on Sunday, May 4, 2-3:30 p.m. to spotlight the art work submitted by students of the Talent Pool under Ms. Lakesia Brackins, Elba Elementary School.

These students submitted suggested logos for the FOEPL Program for the library. All art entries will be displayed, and the winning entry by Drew Ellis has

been printed on book bags and other items which may be purchased at the library.

The new FOEPL officers for 2003 will also be introduced at the reception. They include Nell Gilmer, president; Carolyn Blackmon, vice president; Beverly McCall, secretary; and Betty Hicks, treasurer.

FOEPL is a volunteer group of people who seek to create awareness of the opportunities offered by the Elba Public Library; to increase library services and facilities; and, to focus attention on library needs and enrich the cultural advantages available to Elba and surrounding areas.

FOEPL members are working



Drew Ellis displays items containing his winning logo. He is the son of Elba band director, Jeff Ellis.

on several projects to benefit the library.

At the present time they help fund internet services for the four computers available for public use. Computer classes will be offered for beginners beginning Summer 2003 with volunteers available to assist in the computer lab. Genealogy workshops will be scheduled to teach participants how to use the computer for research, and book reviews are being planned on a regular basis to discuss books participants have enjoyed reading.

These are just a few of the FOEPL events planned for the coming year.

Stop by the Library today and sign up to be a FOEPL. Annual dues depend on the category participants choose (individual, family, student, corporate, etc).

Area Happenings

THE COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION will conduct its regular monthly meeting Thursday, May 1 (TONIGHT), 7 p.m., at the board of education office located on Redloch Hill in Elba.

ELBA'S SESQUICENTENNIAL FUN RUN will be Sunday, May 4, and everyone is invited to come out and join the fun of a one mile run, walk or jog around downtown Elba. Registration will begin at 7 a.m., and the fun run will begin at 8 a.m. Registration and beginning of the race will be at the Elba Senior Citizens Building, across from the police station. There will be one winner in each age division with that winner receiving an Elba Sesquicentennial Celebration T-shirt.

THE DOTHAN-BOUSTON COUNTY SUBSTANCE ABUSE PARTNERSHIP AND THE WIREGRASS HISPANIC-LATINO OUTREACH PROGRAM will host the International Family Day in the Park on Sunday, May 4, from 10:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Johnny Henderson Park, Hwy. 167 N., Dothan. Activities scheduled include: Wiregrass Hispanic Senior Citizens, Hispanic folk art, live musical entertainment and speeches on Hispanic unity.

ELBA HEAD START is now taking applications for children ages 3 years or older for the 2003-2004 school year. Find out how to apply by stopping by the Elba Head Start office, next to the Elba Post Office, or call 667-3625.



FOR A GOOD CAUSE...Laughter filled the courtyard of the Elba Nursing Home Friday, April 25, when Dr. Lance K. Dyess received his prize for winning a certain contest to benefit the Coffee County Relay for Life. The contest was "Kiss the Pig," and Dr. Dyess became the "lucky" winner after the final tally revealed him as the top monetary nominee. The staff of the hospital and nursing home worked together to raise \$342 with this particular event, and these funds, along with other money raised, will be donated to Coffee County Relay for Life to assist the American Cancer Society in its efforts to find a cure for cancer. Above, Dr. Dyess does his part by giving his new friend a quick peck; however, a squeal from the pig revealed it actually dreaded the occasion more than the good doctor.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

A local citizen called recently with an unusual story, and he was interested in finding out if anyone else in Elba had ever heard it. The story goes that years ago there was an old Indian man in Elba who told stories about Elba floods. This old Indian reportedly said many times during local floods he had paddled a boat through the forks of a large oak tree that was on the northern side of the courthouse grounds. Now the question is passed on to our readers. Can any of our readers confirm the story of the old Indian, or something similar? It would also be great to have a picture of the oak tree showing the forks in such a way that could make the actions in this story possible.

One night recently we saw the singing group "Dixie Chicks" crying on T. V. all upset over being misunderstood, etc. We quickly found something else to watch... that was not exactly the news we had tuned in to see. It is a shame not to be among their fans... not liking what they say, nor their posing nude for a magazine cover... it would be great to join those who have stopped buying and/or listening to their music! Oh well, always a day late and dollar short. True, they have every right to their opinions and to express them, but they, a lot of Americans have fought and died defending OUR rights to not like what they think and say. We spent several years on military duty ourselves, preserving those freedoms for all Americans.

The Alabama legislature is still in a stall. Actually, it is the state Senate which is stalled. The House is passing bills... bills that will probably die because the Senate can never get to all the House passed bills under normal circumstances and with over half the session gone and still deadlocked, so bad, so sad. There was talk a couple of weeks ago of a special session of the legislature about May 1st (today) to consider the governor's tax plan(s), but the last news heard out of Montgomery was that Governor Bob Riley still hasn't decided which direction he wants to go on this issue. Well maybe he hasn't decided which direction is best to get the necessary legislative and public support on tax increases.

Alabama Attorney General Bill Pryor has been nominated for a federal judgeship. Already a group of more liberal minded citizens in this country are frothing at the mouth over the thoughts of this conservative getting such a lifetime appointment. The battle will be bloody but apparently not as bloody as some have been. It appears that Pryor (or more accurately President Bush) has the support to win confirmation... but it will be much noisier than the recent appointment of Mark Fuller to the federal bench. Fuller had one hearing day and very little negative questioning.

Oh, all those dreaming of getting Pryor's old job had better not give up their day job right yet. He hasn't yet won appointment, and the governor hasn't given his yes of all the candidates mentioned... at least not publicly. Also this delay is giving opponents time to organize against particular candidates.

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- **Second** - Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
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- **Fourth** - Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

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TELEPHONE (334) 897-2823 or fax (334) 897-3434
Toll Free 1-888-216-8050 • e-mail clipper@alaweb.com

John Ferrin Cox - PUBLISHER
Linda Hodges - EDITOR
Ricky Mulaz - SPORTS
Heddy J. Cox - BUSINESS MANAGER

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$19 per year
6 Months - \$10, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax
6 months - \$11
Outside Alabama - \$24 per year - 6 months - \$13

FUN RUN REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete and return this form with your entry fee.

WAIVER: In consideration of the acceptance of this entry, I waive for myself, my heirs and assigns, all rights and claims for damages which might have against the Elba Sesquicentennial Fun Run, other sponsoring organizations, businesses or individuals as a result of any and all injuries suffered by me in that event. I attest and verify that I am an amateur and physically fit for this event.

Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____
(If under 18 years of age, parent or guardian must sign.)

Please print:

Name: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Male _____

Female _____

Age (on 5/1/03): _____

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, April 21, 2003, investigated the following incidents:

three for domestic violence, one harassing communications, four for harassment, one theft of property, one possession of a controlled substance, one possession of drug paraphernalia, one giving a false name, one giving false information, two for domestic disputes, one criminal trespassing, one cat bite, one contempt of court and one criminal mischief.

The following arrests were made: one for probation revocation, one for contempt of court, three for failure to appear, one for possession of a controlled substance, one for possession of drug paraphernalia, one for giving a false name, one for giving false information and one for domestic violence.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: seven for violation of the seat belt law, one for driving without first obtaining a driver's license, two for no tag, five for no proof of insurance, three for driving with a suspended driver's license, six for speeding, one for an expired tag, one for no driver's license, one for driving with a revoked driver's license and one for no insurance.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

MONDAY, APRIL 21 - Alarm activated at Kelley Foods, Building A (5:48 a.m.); River stage - 6:80 feet (6:39 a.m.); Alarm activated at 987 Drayton (1:37 p.m.); Breeding and entering (not in progress) reported at 1281 Neil Grantham Dr. (2:40 p.m.); Pryor reported at 250 County Rd. 263 (10:40 p.m.).

TUESDAY, APRIL 22 - River stage - 7:58 feet (6:59 a.m.); Routine activity.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23 - Coffee County EMS dispatched

BULLETIN BOARD

• **ABUSING CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES THROUGH CHRIST A.R.M.S.** addition recovery ministry services - Thurs., 7 p.m. - Ino Baptist Church. Call 565-3970 or visit the website: www.inobaptist.com.
• **SOCIAL SECURITY REP.** Courtroom: 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30. Call FREE 1-800-772-1213.
• **ROTARY CLUB** - Tuesday @ Noon-First First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.
• **ELBA CITY COUNCIL** - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6 p.m. - City Hall.
• **WATER & ELECTRIC** - Tuesday following 2nd Monday - 6 p.m. - City Hall.
• **ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN.** - Tues. - 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.
• **GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP** - every Monday 6:30 p.m. - Elba United Methodist Church-center on side on W. Davis St. - Maggie Garrett Classroom.
• **COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION** - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton.
• **LIONS CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizen Center.
• **ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD** - 1st Thurs. - 5:30 p.m. - Supr. Office.
• **AMERICAN LEGION** - 1st Tuesday of every month - 7:00 p.m. Legion Hall - Troy Hwy.
• **MASONIC LODGE** - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month - 7 p.m. - 7 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School.
• **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER** - Mon-Fri. 8-12 noon & 12:30 - 4:30 Noon @ Farm Center Complex 894-5838.
• **COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN.** - 3rd Sat. - 3 p.m. - Club House.
• **REPUBLICAN WOMEN** - 3rd Wed. Noon - Colony Inn, Enterprise.
• **ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY** - 2nd Thursday at noon, Driscoll Hangar at the Airport.
• **AARP** meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month.
• **ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB** - 1st & 3rd Monday - 7 p.m. - Elba boys locker room.
• **NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB** - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Elba 150 banners available for purchase

Official Sesquicentennial Banners are now available for purchase. Citizens may purchase the banners for \$75; however, personalized banners are available for an additional \$5 (\$80).

The banners will be displayed from utility poles throughout the city for the remainder of the Sesquicentennial year. After the celebration, banners will be retired and personalized banners returned to owners for keepsake. Any proceeds from banner sales will be used for purchase of holiday decorations for the City of Elba.

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of Banners: _____

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ms. Hodges,

As you know graduation is a very meaningful time in a senior's life. This time it fast approaching us here at Elba High School. We have spent the last 13 years working toward this momentous occasion and are looking forward to an evening that we will never forget.

As Elba High School Students, we have always prided ourselves in the class of our school and of our community. In the past few years we have noticed that many people who have attended our graduation ceremonies have viewed them as a time to scream and yell and have not shown the respect demanded by this occasion.

We would like to take this opportunity to encourage all of our families and friends to treat this occasion with the respect and dignity that it so rightly deserves. Graduation is a formal event that marks the end of one chapter in our lives. Please honor our graduating class by dressing and acting appropriately.

We have always been taught that our auditorium is a place of distinction. We have been taught that we do not scream and yell. We treat this place as a sanctuary and we ask that you respect the pride that we have in our school.

As we have noticed in the past, there has always been a

problem of seating during graduation. Many of us have family that will travel miles to be a part of this joyous event. We encourage all family members to arrive early for our ceremony and we ask that the public give our families a chance to see their loved ones move into the next stage of our lives. We will share this occasion with our community in the commons area following our commencement ceremony.

The Class of 2003 appreciates everything that our community has so graciously provided for us in the past and we hope to be able to return the opportunities to future graduating classes. Thank you again for helping us make our graduation night a time that we will always cherish.

Sincerely,
Heather Hays
Senior Class President

"MAKE UP TIME FOR MILLIONS OF CHURCH PEOPLE!"
Dear Editor,

If George Washington, "Father of our Country" and the other founding fathers of our great Christian nation, knew about the terrorist attack on the very heart of our nation, they would turn over in their graves when hearing this unbelievable news.

"If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, our

missionary vehicles.

Commissioner Bernest Brooks suggested coming up with a plan to control the maintenance properly and its disposal while Commissioner Linda Westbrook thought it might be important to look at the cost of in-house maintenance for the sheriff's department vehicles.

She said she believes it was 1999 when the county added on to the county shop so the mechanics could work on the sheriff's department vehicles to cut costs of having the work done outside the system. Therefore, she suggested looking at the costs to see if that has truly been accomplished.

"I think we're all saying we need a better working relationship with this," Commission chairman Robert Stephens said.

He suggested that maybe a vehicle needing \$2,000 or more worth of maintenance work be

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Card of Thanks

To our family and friends, a most heartfelt big THANK YOU for the support that we received during Donnie's deployment. He is safely home now! If you have the Red, White & Blue Thank You. If you displayed the yellow ribbon for our troops - Thank You.

If you wore a flag with the yellow ribbon - Thank You.

Most important, if you said a prayer for our troops' safety - Thank You.

May God bless you and may God bless our troops wherever they are and may God continue to bless America.

Donnie Morris's Family
Donnie, Lu, Broderick
Ladon and Emily
Dixie Davis
Roland and Pat Powell

country will go on prospering, if we and our posterity neglect its instructions and authority, no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overwhelm us and bury all our glory in profound obscurity."

The church leadership of our nation has largely been silent in the face of this un-American attack on our way of life. Each church should have an outside ministry with nationwide leaders ready to confront national problems and solve them. This national church organization should be sufficiently financed and represent each denomination and Christian group in this country.

ACLU would like to remove the word "God" out of the 10 national church organization. What word would they like to use as a substitute for God? How does the word "Satan" sound on all of our money? "In Satan we trust?"

Since 1962, when Christian principles were removed from American public life, according to reliable statistics, the "bottom is falling out" as to the moral issues in our modern society. It is a shame and a disgrace what a handful of antagonists can do to our beloved Christian nation while we sit idly by and allow it to happen. God forbid.
FRED WOOD
KINSTON, AL 36353
*Daniel Webster

(Continued from Page One)

set aside until a decision can be made by the proper authorities on doing something else.

Later in the meeting county administrator Wilson Mobley asked commissioners whether they wanted to go ahead and buy two new vehicles for the sheriff's department as budgeted or acquire three new vehicles through a lease-purchase agreement.

With the feeling that further discussion will be needed before making a decision, commissioners asked Moates to join them at the next working session meeting on Wednesday, May 7, to discuss which option might better benefit the county.

Other action taken included:
* Approved a motion to send out bids for pip insents.

* Approved a motion to approve a landfill credit application for J.D. Parker Construction of Brundidge.

* Approved a motion to lease the property, where the Mount Pleasant Senior Citizen Center will be built, for 25 years with an option to lease it for an additional 25 years if for the same purpose. The lease amount will be \$1. This, of course, will take place providing approval from ADECA.



Called to Duty and Serving Their Country

Randolph Shon Willis
Ronnie Davis
Demetrius Siler
Jason Jordan
Jason Thomas
Edward Jonathan Tillis
Michael A. DeSandro
Marian Smith
David Head Jr.
Jeremy Blinn
Bradford Ashley
Chad Chancellor
Amber Ellison Simmons
Dexter Watkins
Melody Byrd Bryant
Kerry Hardy
Timothy A. Larnum
James Kenneth (Buck) Simons
Willie (Ray) Slawson
Christopher Bradley Bush
Anthony Shay Johnston
William Shane Farris
Michael L. Ezell
Jason P. Bowden
Marshall Lawson
Joe Fuller
Jeffrey Eldredge
Pernell Terry
Jephtha DuBoise
William R. Mote

Help Let the Community Know Who is Serving Our Country...
Call The Elba Clipper at 897-2823 and Add His/Her Name to This List!

Obituaries

BOBBIE JEAN STAMPER

Miss Bobbie Jean Stamper, age 52, died April 17, 2003 at Fort Walton Beach Medical Center.

Funeral services were held April 22, 2003 at Nazareth Missionary Baptist Church in Opp with James Holmes officiating. Burial followed at Bellehaven Cemetery in Elba with Coleman Funeral Home of Elba directing.

Miss Stamper was preceded in death by her brother, Edward White Jr.

Survivors include six sisters: Linda Logan (Loni) Watson, Anne Logan (Charles) Carson, Rene Hobbs, Inettter Hobbs (Kennie) White, Patricia Williams and Sylvia Hobbs; eight brothers: Warren (Debra)

Reeves, Larry Reeves, Derrick Logan, James (Shawn) Hobbs, Willie R. Logan, Michael Reeves, Mickey Reeves and Angelo Hobbs; and her step-mother: Elner Reeves.

CLARK GLENICE CURRIE

Mr. Clark Glenice Currie, age 65, a resident of Enterprise Nursing Home, died April 28, 2003, in the nursing home.

A private memorial service will be held at a later date. Byrd Funeral Home of Dothan is in charge of arrangements.

Mr. Currie was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, and was self-employed before retirement in 1997.

Survivors include three daughters and sons-in-law: Kris and Michael Baston,

Montgomery; Dana and Lesley Stephens, Warner Robins, Ga.; Ronda and Bill Robinson, Elba; five grandchildren: Nicholas Baston, Lesley Stephens, Lance Stephens, Logan Stephens and Braxton Robinson.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Enterprise Nursing Home, P.O. Box 311227, Enterprise, AL 36331-1227.

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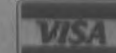
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SCHOOLS

EHS Marching Band takes trip to Orlando, Fla.

by Brittany Cooper

On Wednesday, April 23, the Elba High School Marching Tiger Band pulled out of the Elba High School parking lot around midnight and headed towards Orlando, Fla.

The group stayed until Sunday, April 27.

While gone, the band visited many amusement parks and other exciting places.

They spent all day Thursday at Wet & Wild, and on Friday, they visited Universal Studios Islands of Adventure.

On Saturday, they spent their time at Universal Studios while the last day was spent enjoying rides at Bush Gardens, Tampa Bay.

The trip was basically a vacation for many band students, and we are sure very enjoyable to all.



PICTURE OF THE WEEK...Colby's true side!



Tiger Tales

Editor:
Sheena Flowers

Student Spotlight

This week's student spotlight is Katie Elizabeth Dyess. She is the 17-year-old daughter of Benita and Dr. Lance K. Dyess. Katie is a member of Sr. Beta, Mu Alpha Theta, Spanish Club, Tri-M and Girl Scout Troop #300.

In the Elba Marching Tiger Band, Katie plays xylophone and is pit section leader. She is also a member of Symphonic Band where her talents are used to play the bass clarinet.

Katie is also a member of Wooten Chapel's Drama Team.

We would like to congratulate Katie for her well-rounded and balanced high school career.



Katie Dyess

What will you miss?

Shawna Hill - I am going to miss lunch because it was a good time to socialize.

Richard Myers - I am going to miss everything, from everything at bottom to everything at top.

Danae Ware - I am going to miss my favorite teachers and coaches.

Devri Kierse - Seeing my friends and my favorite teachers.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SCHOOLS

EHS students participate in All-State band

by Katie Driggers

One of the highest honors a high school band member can receive is the chance to be in the All-State band. This year two students from Elba High School earned that chance.

Kimberly and Katrina Farris were selected to play with the top high school students in the state. On the weekend of April 10, 11 and 12 the girls went to Auburn to participate.

Kimberly made second chair Red band on Contrabass clarinet, and Katrina made fifth chair White band on Bass clarinet.

Mr. Ellis and the rest of the EHS band are very proud of Kimberly and Katrina's accomplishments and all of their hard work. Congratulations girls!!



Kimberly Farris



Katrina Farris

Life...by Jessica Lauren Hathcock

Have you ever really sat down and thought about how you want to live your life? Or how you would like to be remembered when it is over? Do you really want to be remembered as Homecoming Queen or as having the most perfect hair? Or do you want to be remembered as someone everyone loved and admired just because of how you are, not what you have accomplished in your life, who you dated, and the clothes you wore.

Life is something to cherish and everyone wants to leave something behind worthwhile. What will you leave behind in the end? Memories? Children? Loved Ones? A lifetime of happiness?

Whatever you do in your life and wherever you go think about this because you never know what will be remembered.

My Life

At the end of my life
When I am long gone
And I look back
At the life I owned
I want to be remembered
As someone who cared
I want to be remembered
As someone who was always there
I want them to think back

To when I was young
Remember all the fun we had
Remember me in school
Me picking on the teachers
And acting like a fool
I want them to say
I loved through the bad
And I never turned my back
When they were sad
I want my friends to say
That I was the one
Who could make a frown
Glow like the sun
I want the one I love
To stand by my grave
And give me one last flower
To lie by my name
I want him to say
I had a sparkle in my eyes
Until the last moment
When I died
I want to be remembered
As a lover, a wife
A mother, a friend
Someone who lived her life
Who never backed down
And never gave in
Who stood her ground
Or the thin
I want them to say
That I was loved
And that they will miss
My kisses and hugs
And before they close my casket
And put me away
To say one last good-bye
To my smiling face

Thoughts & Quotes:

by Meredith English

I thought quotes wouldn't be enough for the brilliant citizens of Elba to be reading, so I decided to add some crazy thoughts for ya'll to think about...

If your name is Mr. Crunch and you joined the Navy would you eventually be called Captain Crunch?

"A positive attitude may not solve all your problems but it will annoy enough people to make it worth while" - Helm Albright (1876 - 1944)

If a man has no fingers, can he press charges?

"I wish people who have trouble communicating would just shut-up." - Tom Lehere (1928 -)

Why is there an "L" in NOEL?

"Better to get up late and be wide awake than the get up early and be asleep all day" - Anonymous

If you eat regular rice crispies with chocolate milk will it taste the same as co-co crispies with regular milk?

"I do not want people to be agreeable, as it saves me the trouble of liking them." - Jane Austin (1775-1817)

SCHOOL NEWS



The students in Mrs. Nall and Mrs. Bryan's classes at Zion Chapel Elementary School wanted to give the United States soldiers a hand, so the students created a sign entitled "Give Our Troops A Hand!" As shown, this unique creation contains a handprint from each of the students, and it currently can be found displayed on a wall at ZCES. This is only one of many decorations found at the school showing support for the troops.



The junior class officers are President Anna Miller, Secretary Amber Henderson, Vice President Jason Danley and Treasurer Macon Hodge.

FBLA students attend Alabama State Conference

Thirty-six members of Zion Chapel's chapter of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) and four chaperones and one adviser attended the 2003 Alabama State Conference held in Birmingham.

The group left Zion Chapel early one Wednesday morning, and after stopping in Prattville to eat breakfast, arrived in Birmingham and the Civic Center Sheraton around noon. They were allowed to check into their rooms and that meant that students who were competing had time to explore the hotel as well as get dressed in business attire for their competition.

The Conference began with an opening general session where the state officers and their advisers were introduced. Also on the program was an introduction of the Alabama FBLA State Administrative Board. Zion Chapel's sponsor, Mrs. Rachel Bryan, is a member of this board. She gave a presentation on the Board's Make A Difference Day Project called "Loving and Literacy." She used PowerPoint, a multimedia application, for her presentation. Zion Chapel's project won second place in the state for their project called "A Math Marathon." Zion Chapel was also awarded a plaque for obtaining a 5% increase in chapter membership.

The next day, after a morning of competition, the Awards

Ceremony and Closing General Session was held. Zion Chapel's Middle level Chapter Officer Installation Ceremony was used to induct these new state officers. Zion Chapel winners announced during the Awards Ceremony were Parliamentary

Procedure Team (Meta Gatlin, Michael Sneed, Jeremy Sanders, Melanie Perry, and Kristen McLendon), Third Place, Kerri Flowers, FBLA Principles and Procedures; and, Jeremy Hoomes, second place, Technology Concepts.

The students in Mrs. Kelly Cobb's class at ZCES recently wrote letters to three service men currently on active duty. The class combined the letters to make booklets for Mike DeSandro, Shayne Allen and David Snellgrove.

Below is a sampling of the letters written:

Daddy, protect our nation we will win. Free us from evil. God

bless the U.S.A. Saddam needs to be destroyed. Help the U.S.A. Your Son, Mike DeSandro

Dear Mr. Mike, I thank you for protecting our nation. I hope you don't get hurt. Sodn is rile mean he is a man that will hurt you.

Love, Shelby Sorrells

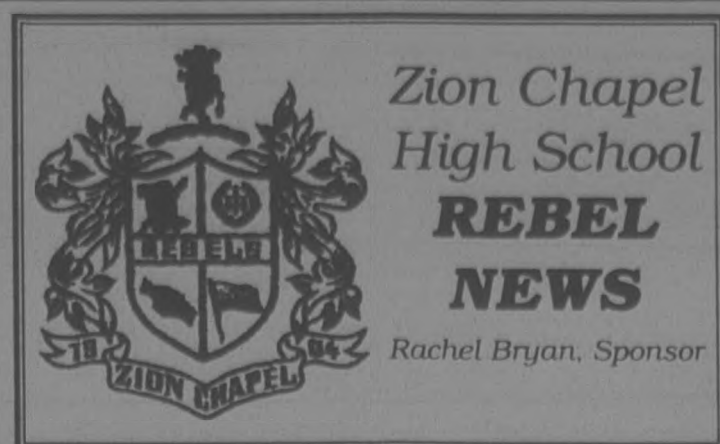
Mr. DeSandro, I Love you. Thank you for sav-

ing the U.S.A. God Bless You. Go U.S.A.! We support you. I hope the war is fixing to be over. Your doing a good job over there.

Love, Jencie Allen

The students wrote their letters to show support for the soldiers. The booklets will now be mailed to the men at their current spot of deployment.

Keri Flowers



Zion Chapel Battlebot Update:

During the early part of April Mr. John McCrory, Josh Richards, Andy Kelley, and Jarred Flowers made a trip to San Francisco, California, to participate in a national

Battlebots competition.

During spring break, which was just before their trip, they spent many hours preparing their bot for the trip and for the competition.

Donna Flowers, a clarinet player in Zion Chapel's band for the last four years, has been named drum major for the 2003-04 school year.

Donna, a freshman, is the daughter of Don and Linda Flowers and has a twin sister Kerri. She also has an older sister Beverly who is a graduate of Zion Chapel High School.

When asked about why she wanted to be drum major, Donna said, "It was during my eighth grade year. I found myself finding the beat of the music and directing it. After directing the music as well as playing it became one of my passions." Donna, whose only band director has been Mr. Michael Bird, is clarinet section leader during marching season.

Donna said that she tried out last year for drum major but did not win the position so she began to practice even more for this year's tryouts. Her cousin Morgan Hodge, a former drum major, helped her with some of the things she needed to know. For the tryouts she had to learn to be the "perfect" marcher and practice the songs that she was going to direct many times. She had to practice calling commands as well as performing them. To complete her preparedness for next year's marching season she will attend drum major camp at Troy State University during the summer.

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH

ZC's Amanda Perry receives Bryant-Jordan scholarship

Amanda Jean Perry has been named the Class 1A, Region 2, Bryant-Jordan Scholar-Athlete. She has been awarded a scholarship and is recognized as a high school student who has achieved a high level of success not only athletically but academically.

A school's nominee must be a high school senior who the administrator believes is deserving of recognition for the achievement attained by the student. The student must have participated in the interscholastic athletic program of the school, and must also have attained a measure of academic success.

Amanda has been named valedictorian of her graduating



Amanda Perry

class. She is the daughter of Cherin and Roger Shaw of Jack and Mark and Jody Perry of Kileen, Texas.



The senior class officers are Secretary Angie Rushing, Vice President Perry Cauthen, President Sam Wambles and Treasurer Nicky Paez.

FCCLA students win medals at STAR Events

The Zion Chapel Chapter of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America had silver and bronze medal winners at the organization's recent STAR Events.

STAR Events(Students Taking Action with Recognition) are competitive events in which members are recognized for proficiency and achievement in chapter and individual projects, leadership skills and occupation preparation.

STAR Events offers individual skill development through the following: Cooperative-teams work to accomplish specific goals; individualized-members work alone to accomplish specific goals; and competitive-individual or team performance measured by an established set of criteria. There are 14 different events in which members may participate.

The STAR Events goal is to help members develop specific life skills in character development, creative and critical thinking, interpersonal communication, practical knowledge and vocational preparation.

Kim McLain and Tracy Banks won a silver medal in a project called "Focus on Children". Chris Leger won a bronze medal and was a state winner in Career Investigations. Tindol Long won a silver medal in Applied Technology, Junior Level. Nicky Paez, who won

first place in the Coffee County Peanut Recipe Contest, won second place in the Region III contest and a silver medal in the state contest. Luke Taylor won a silver medal in Job Interview.

The STAR Events were held on Friday, and the FCCLA State Conference was held on Saturday. Those attending the state conference on Saturday were Stephanie Berry, Tindol Long, Brittany Cardwell, Brittany Layton, Chris Leger, Sheena Hussey, Clay Lewis, Zach Simmons, Luke Taylor, and Cassandra Cole.

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SPORTS

Views from....

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

The girls went out to do a little clothes shopping last week and then came storming back last Wednesday afternoon to post a 12-4 extra-inning win, on the road. The Tigers played perhaps their best game of the season in the field and turned in an effortless performance, while at the plate the Tigers stayed alive with some key hits and then broke it open in the eighth inning by scoring eight runs. It would have been easy to give up after falling behind 4-0 early in the game on the road, but Elba has a veteran ball club and the players hung tough until the bats started booming and then sent the home-town fans home with little to cheer about. This bunch of players has been together since they were in coach-pitch baseball and has always been winners, and even though things will get tougher in the very next round, they have what it takes to surprise even more opponents as the playoffs continue.

SWINGS AND MISSES....

*** The Elba Tigers spotted Aliceville an early four run lead and then came storming back last Wednesday afternoon to post a 12-4 extra-inning win, on the road. The Tigers played perhaps their best game of the season in the field and turned in an effortless performance, while at the plate the Tigers stayed alive with some key hits and then broke it open in the eighth inning by scoring eight runs. It would have been easy to give up after falling behind 4-0 early in the game on the road, but Elba has a veteran ball club and the players hung tough until the bats started booming and then sent the home-town fans home with little to cheer about. This bunch of players has been together since they were in coach-pitch baseball and has always been winners, and even though things will get tougher in the very next round, they have what it takes to surprise even more opponents as the playoffs continue.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers posted three more wins last week to improve their record to 19-2 on the season and in the process downed two good 4A teams in Daleville and Opp and a very good 2A club in Geneva County. The Lady Tigers will travel to Thomasville this weekend to compete in the section tournament, and one has to believe that the Elba girls are the clear cut favorites to win the tournament and then host a sub-state series the following weekend. While the Lady Tigers didn't hit the ball as well as they will have to in upcoming games, they did get the key hits when they needed them and simply kept on winning. A major plus last week was the pitching performance of Hannah Martin. Martin had gotten only limited action on the pitching rubber due to the continued success of freshman standout Stephanie Baxley, but against Opp Martin stepped in and tossed a three-hitter and allowed no earned runs. Now that the players know they can win with Baxley or Martin on the rubber, they should be even more confident that they can win no matter who they might play.

*** The big news around town last week was the announcement that beginning with the 2004 school year the Elba Tigers would drop down to Class 2A in all athletics. The Alabama High School Athletic Association released its 2004-2006 classifications last week, and Elba is now the 7th biggest Class 2A school in the state. Elba had been near the bottom in enrollment in Class 3A for many years. However, the upcoming drop to 2A did surprise many school officials and all the coaches. The drop in classification will mean a new look for all athletic schedules in 2004, and area teams also listed in Class 2A that the Tigers will compete against will include Houston County, Laverne, New Brockton, Wicksburg, Geneva County, Cottonwood, Samson, G.W. Long, Houston Academy, Red Level and Highland Home. It's hard to accept the fact that Elba will soon be a 2A school and will begin to play schools that always seemed smaller than us, but at least this will be the last year we have to play folks like Lowndes County schools Calhoun and Central, not to mention 3A powers like T.R. Miller, Clarke County and W.S. Neal. I hope the Tigers will continue their recent rivalries against Straughn and Brantley. However, there is no doubt the athletic program at Elba High is about to change.

*** In closing...the recent rainy weather has played havoc with the youth baseball and softball leagues here in Elba, but this weekend there will be plenty of action as both baseball and softball teams will hit the field for a rare weekend of action. All the youth sports fans that haven't had a chance to watch a game should come out Saturday and see just what they have been missing.

Elba's Coach Rhoades confident Lady Tigers can continue to roll through section one tournament

The Elba Lady Tigers will travel to Thomasville this weekend to compete in the Class 1A Section 1 softball tournament, and Coach Amelia Rhoades stated earlier this week that she felt like the Lady Tigers were ready to make their mark against some of the finest 3A teams in South Alabama.

"The Lady Tigers just keep rolling and rolling up the wins, and the team is on a roll at the correct time of the season," stated Coach Rhoades. "Seniors Devri Kilcrease and Samantha Williams have truly been dedicated leaders on this team, and every member of the team has carried out of motto 'Play from the heart' throughout the season. This group of young ladies has established many positive qualities this year, such as pride, class and sportsmanship, and it has really been my pleasure to coach this group of student-athletes."

"We are nearing the end of the regular season," added Coach Rhoades, "but we still have many great things we can accomplish and we are looking to stay on a roll and roll all the way to a championship."

Elba has six players that will carry a 300 average into this weekend's tournament, led by

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, **All-Star Marketing, Inc., dba Mr. Henry's #9**, have made application to the City of Elba for a **550-Retail Beer** off premises consumption at this location, **421 N. Claxton Avenue**, Elba, Alabama. A public hearing will be held by the City Council in their regular meeting in the Council Chamber in City Hall at **5:30 p.m., Monday, May 12, 2003**.

From 110-team South Carolina tourney

Tiger golfers bring home honors

The Elba Tiger golf team finished with a 36-hole total of 609 to earn the team championship in the First Flight at the sixth annual Palmetto High School Golf Championship, held on April 17-19, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

The Palmetto High School Golf Championship was a 54-hole college style golf tournament that attracted 110 teams from across the nation to compete at Myrtle Beach's famed Grand Strand. The field for this year's event included 12 teams from California and several others from west of the Mississippi River.

Elba's Bart Barnes finished with a 36-hole total of 147 (71-76) to capture medalist honors in the First Flight, and was followed closely by Tiger team mate Justin Allen 148 (75-73). Other Tiger golfers included Colby Capps 153 (79-74), Timothy Jackson 161 (82-79) and Ben Dye 176 (87-89).

The 110 high school golf teams competed on eight different golf courses on opening day, to determine flights for the teams, with each flight consisting of 22 teams.

In claiming the First Flight championship, the Tiger golfers defeated defending state champions from South Carolina, Louisiana, Nebraska and North Carolina.

Following are complete results from the 36-hole First Flight action:

Elba, Alabama 307-302-609
Cottonwood, Samson, G.W. Long, Houston Academy, Red Level and Highland Home. It's hard to accept the fact that Elba will soon be a 2A school and will begin to play schools that always seemed smaller than us, but at least this will be the last year we have to play folks like Lowndes County schools Calhoun and Central, not to mention 3A powers like T.R. Miller, Clarke County and W.S. Neal. I hope the Tigers will continue their recent rivalries against Straughn and Brantley. However, there is no doubt the athletic program at Elba High is about to change.

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*** The Elba Lady Tigers posted three more wins last week to improve their record to 19-2 on the season and in the process downed two good 4A teams in Daleville and Opp and a very good 2A club in Geneva County. The Lady Tigers will travel to Thomasville this weekend to compete in the section tournament, and one has to believe that the Elba girls are the clear cut favorites to win the tournament and then host a sub-state series the following weekend. While the Lady Tigers didn't hit the ball as well as they will have to in upcoming games, they did get the key hits when they needed them and simply kept on winning. A major plus last week was the pitching performance of Hannah Martin. Martin had gotten only limited action on the pitching rubber due to the continued success of freshman standout Stephanie Baxley, but against Opp Martin stepped in and tossed a three-hitter and allowed no earned runs. Now that the players know they can win with Baxley or Martin on the rubber, they should be even more confident that they can win no matter who they might play.

Following are highlights of last weeks action:

ELBA 14 DALEVILLE 0
The Elba Lady Tigers combined an aggressive hitting attack with another stellar pitching performance as they rolled to an easy 14-0 win over the 4A Daleville Lady Hawks, last Monday afternoon in Elba.

While Elba pitchers Stephanie Baxley and Hannah Martin were holding Daleville without a hit over the opening two innings, the Lady Tigers hitters were enjoying a banner day at the plate as they combined 11 hits with 5 walks to take a 14-0 lead. Lacy Carlile and Michelle Carpenter opened the bottom of the first inning with a single and a double to spark Elba to a quick 1-0 lead, while Leanna Sutley added a two-run single and later scored on an rbi single by Haleigh Duncan to give the Lady Tigers a 4-0 advantage.

Consecutive hits by Carlile, Carpenter and Devri Kilcrease to open the second inning kept the Lady Tigers rolling, while Kilcrease later added an rbi double as Elba plated 10 runs and opened up a lopsided 14-0 lead after only two innings of play. The Elba reserves failed to add to the Lady Tigers lead; however, the outcome was never in doubt as Elba posted the 14-0 win over the 4A Lady Hawks.

Lacy Carlile had 3 hits and scored 3 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Michelle Carpenter added 2 hits and scored 3 runs. Haleigh Duncan added 2 hits and knocked in 4 runs and Devri Kilcrease also chipped in with 2 hits, scored 2 runs and knocked in 3 runs. Stephanie Baxley got the win on the pitching rubber as she pitched two innings and allowed no runs on no hits, while striking out 3 batters.



ELBA TIGER GOLF TEAM....members hold the trophy won recently in the Palmetto High School Golf Championship, in South Carolina. The Tiger golfers won the championship of the First Flight over teams from eight states, including four defending state champions. Pictured above are (l-r) Ben Dye, Colby Capps, Justin Allen, Bart Barnes and Timothy Jackson. Standing behind team is Coach Susan Barnes.

Jones Brynes, S.C. 318-313-647
Waccamaw, S.C. 324-308-632
Fort Mill, S.C. 312-321-633
Metairie Park, LA. 319-314-633
John Milledge, GA. 320-315-635
Lincoln East, NE. 326-317-643
Forsythe Co., N.C. 331-314-645

Caroline Forrest, S.C. 322-325-659
Cedartown, GA. 330-320-650
Wade Hampton, S.C. 326-325-651
North Mecklenburg, N.C. 326-329-655
Pinson Valley, AL. 327-329-656
Charlotte Christian, N.C. 333-323-656

Liberty Christian, TX. 334-325-659
McGill-Toolen, AL. 330-334-664
Mt. St. Joseph, VT. 332-333-665
Gaston Christian, N.C. 345-325-670

Improve record to 19-2

Lady Tigers up winning streak to nine straight games

The Elba Lady Tigers hit the field three times last week and posted three wins to run their winning streak to nine games and improve their record for the season to 19-2.

The Lady Tigers opened the week at home against the Daleville Lady Hawks and posted an easy 14-0 win, then followed it up with wins over Geneva County 7-2 and Opp 5-2 to cap off another winning week.

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LADY TIGER COACH AMELIA RHOADES....talks with players between innings of a recent game. Listening to the instructions are Lacy Carlile and Michelle Carpenter.

catch Elba at 2-2. However, the Lady Tigers rallied to score 3 runs in the top of the seventh to regain the lead at 5-2 and held on to post the big road win. The seventh inning heroics were ignited by a one-out single by Lacy Carlile, while two Opp errors and a triple by Haleigh Duncan proved to be the difference as the Lady Tigers escaped with 5-2 win.

Lacy Carlile got 3 hits and scored 2 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Haleigh Duncan added 2 hits, including a three-run triple. Hannah Martin got the win on the pitching rubber as she pitched seven innings and allowed two runs, no earned runs, on 3 hits and 5 walks, while striking out 3 batters.

Opp scored an unearned run in the bottom of the sixth to

SUPPORT THE ELBA LADY TIGERS

CLASS 3A, SECTION 1 TOURNAMENT SATURDAY, MAY 3 IN THOMASVILLE

1ST GAME - ELBA VS. T.R. MILLER 9:00 AM

SPORTS

In 3A playoff opener

Elba Tigers rally late to stun Aliceville 12-4

The Elba Tigers traveled to Aliceville last Wednesday afternoon in opening round action in the Class 3A state baseball playoffs and broke loose late to post a wild 12-4 win, in eight innings.

Aliceville gave its home-

town fans plenty to cheer about early on as it scored three runs in the bottom of the first and one more in the second to grab a quick 4-0 lead. Elba got on the scoreboard in the third to cut the lead to 4-1, and then plated two runs in the

fifth to pull within 4-3. The Tigers were still trailing 4-3 heading into the seventh, but rallied when Brandon Petty singled and stole second, and then raced home on a two-out rbi single by Ralston Moore.

The eighth-inning was all Elba as Rick Smith blasted a three-run homer and Kyle English delivered a bases-loaded triple to help the Tigers run away and claim the wild 12-4 win.

Elba Lady Tigers move up to 5th in state softball poll

The Birmingham News has released its "High School Softball" rankings for the week ending April 25 and moving up a notch to #5 in the Class 1A-3A poll were the Elba Lady Tigers.

The Lady Tigers ran their winning streak to nine games last week with three big wins and pushed their season record to 19-2.

Following is a complete listing of this week's softball standings:

CLASS 6A

1 - Auburn (33-4)
2 - Baker (47-6)
3 - Clay Chalkville (29-8)
4 - Grissom (37-9)
5 - Oak Mountain (30-6)
6 - Hoover (31-11)
7 - Decatur (30-8)
8 - Vestavia Hills (25-6)
9 - Bob Jones (39-13)
10 - Opelika (26-5)

CLASS 4A-5A
1 - Hazel Green (47-4)
2 - Hartselle (32-14)
3 - Buckhorn (37-11)
4 - Robertsdale (20-11)
5 - Benjamin Russell (28-8)
6 - Athens (22-3)
7 - St. Pauls (25-11)
8 - Gardendale (25-8)
9 - Mortimer Jordan (26-12)
10 - Wilson (21-7)
10 - Muscle Shoals (27-13)
10 - East Limestone (21-3)
CLASS 1A-3A
1 - Pisgah (31-6)
2 - Alabama Christian (19-9)
3 - Sylva (21-7)
4 - Lynn (35-14)
5 - Elba (18-2)
6 - Tanner (23-6)
7 - Pleasant Valley (20-9)
8 - Waterloo (16-7)
9 - Colbert Hts. (30-13)
10 - Northside (19-8)

State baseball playoffs put two rounds in the scorebook

Following are results from the opening rounds of the Alabama High School Athletic Association's "Prep Baseball Playoffs" involving area teams:

OPENING ROUND

Holy Spirit 16 Florida 6
Milry 9 Cottonwood 0
American Christian 5 Pleasant Home 1
Antion 4 Sweet Water 3
Woodland 11 Luverne 0
Geneva County 4 Marbury 2
Leroy 9 G.W. Long 5
Goshen 5 Laneville 3
Calera 6 Red Level 4
Houston Academy 16 McIntosh 0
Straughn 14 Francis Marion 4
Northside 5 Pike County 4

Zion Chapel Athletic Club to debate disbanding on May 6

The Zion Chapel Athletic Club will hold its final meeting of the school year on Tuesday, May 6, at Zion Chapel High School. The main topic to be discussed will be the disbanding of the club, due to a lack of parental and alumni interest.

May 9 Spring Golf Classic at Ft. Rucker's Silver Wings Golf Course is open to all

Advance registrations are still available at the Silver Wings Golf Course at Ft. Rucker for the May 9 Spring Golf Classic. The \$35 per player entry fee includes greens fee, cart, colorful AAAA T-shirt, food and more.

The four-person best ball scramble in three flights is limited to the first 30 teams with paid registration.

The annual event is organized by the Army Aviation Center chapter of the Army Aviation

Association of America (AAAA or "Quad-A"). Proceeds support local chapter contributions to the community throughout the year, including scholarship programs (\$10,000 awarded locally last year), local Scouting organizations, family well-being programs, and others.

Prizes this year include a hole-in-one Mustang sponsored by Honda's Ford / Jeep and many other quality items sponsored by local businesses.

Spotlight on the.... OUTDOORS



TRAWICK ELLIS



GAVIN ELLIS, JR.

Trawick Ellis, age 11, and Gavin Ellis, Jr., age 13, both killed their first-ever turkeys while visiting with their grandparents, in Elba. The gobblers were killed on their grandparents' farm, near Elba. Parents of the young hunters are Nancy and Gavin Ellis, of Cullman, and grandparents are Betty Joyce and Charles Ellis, of Elba.

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- Third - Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Fourth - Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

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 <p>2000 IMPALA LS - leather - sunroof - AT-6 - must see - very clean</p>	 <p>2002 MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE - leather - only 5,000 miles - extra clean - great for beach</p>	 <p>2002 LINCOLN SIGNATURE SERIES - extra clean - fully loaded</p>
 <p>2002 MUSTANG - pw & i, tile, cruise, low mileage</p>	 <p>2002 FORD WINDSTAR - rear air - 4 door - nice</p>	 <p>2002 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER - one owner - like new - under warranty</p>
 <p>2001 LINCOLN TOWN CAR "SIGNATURE" - extra clean - fully loaded - great value</p>	 <p>1998 GMC YUKON SLT - one owner - like new - only 51,000 miles - must see</p>	 <p>2000 CADILLAC DEVILLE - low miles - like new - must see</p>
 <p>2001 TAHOE LS - AT-8 - power locks/cruise - sharp</p>	 <p>2000 FOCUS SE - pretty color - automatic</p>	 <p>2003 F250 FORD SUPER DUTY V-10 pkg - 4x4 - only 6,000 miles - local trade</p>
 <p>2002 MERCURY SABLE - PS - PW/locks - tilt - cruise - alum wheels</p>	 <p>2001 FORD F-150 SUPER CREW LARIET leather interior - V8 - automatic</p>	 <p>1997 Z71 EX CAB SPORTSIDE - like new AT-8</p>



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The Elba Clipper

Volume 106, Number 47

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, May 8, 2003

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Kleinert's employees receive letter terminating their employment

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

Most, if not all, Kleinert's employees in Elba were recently given a letter dated May 2, 2003, terminating their employment. The letter indicated the company "will shortly wind-

down some of its operations at the Elba, Alabama facility commencing on Monday, May 5, 2003 and continuing until this facility is closed." It further stated that these Elba positions will be eliminated between May 5, 2003 and May 19, 2003.

Kleinert's began operations in Elba a little over 30 years ago and company employment grew to about 1,000 before most American sewing operations began the move to foreign countries. Employment has steadily declined from that point to

being basically a warehousing and business office when this letter was circulated. The addition of the Buster Brown label of children clothing and the related factory outlet store, added a few employees during the final years.

On Tuesday of this week only a small, small cadre of employees were present at the large Elba facility, located on U. S. 84 West, just past the live-stock stockyards.

According to the May 2nd letter, some of the employees may be asked to stay on after the May 19th date "to assist with the final shutdown process, after which their employment will cease."

The termination letter indicated to employees that the company's senior secured cred-

it agreement was declared in default around the first of January. However the lenders agreed not to take action against the companies for a period of time and thus Kleinert's was able to continue to operate.

During the time between that default and to thus save the company and keep it open and operational, management had been unable to provide the above information to the employees any earlier.

The May 2nd letter was one day after final refusal from the primary lenders to extend the senior secured credit agreement and management was unable to secure alternate long range financing.

2nd, no further loans would be made under the original agreement. This refusal of additional financing "left the company with no alternative but to wind down such operations."

The employees were told that since confidentiality was essential to the success of the search for additional financial support and to thus save the company and keep it open and operational, management had been unable to provide the above information to the employees any earlier.

The May 2nd letter was one day after final refusal from the primary lenders to extend the senior secured credit agreement and management was unable to secure alternate long range financing.



FUN RUN FOR ALL AGES...The "Celebrate...Elba 150" Fun Run/Walk was held Saturday, May 3, and proved to be an adventure for all ages. While some participants chose to finish as quickly as possible, others took a leisurely walk around downtown Elba. The participants gathered at the Elba Senior Citizens Center early Saturday morning, and the threat of rain probably had everyone moving in a higher gear. The quickest time of the morning was just over six minutes while those in the rear of the pack finished just under 20 minutes. Above, Doris Cooper, the event's oldest participant, leads a group of walkers around the first section of the mile route. Those following closely include Miss Elba Anna Anderson, Little Miss Elba Reagan Kelley and "Celebrate...Elba 150" committee chairman Jimmy Harrison. Also shown in the background are participants Tina Morgan, Neil Grantham and Beth Henderson. Additional pictures from the event can be found on Page 3.

With questions of funding lingering

Coffee County BOE decides to be patient and hopeful

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Board of Education held its regular monthly meeting Thursday, May 1, with the question of state funding on everyone's mind.

Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram said she had been involved in a superintendent's meeting earlier in the week with Gov. Bob Riley and State Superintendent Ed Richardson in which Ingram said she returned from that meeting with Riley's request on her mind.

"He (Gov. Riley) asked us to be patient and be hopeful," she said.

Ingram told board members Thursday night she would be "patient and hopeful" for as long as possible, but something would have to be done sooner rather than later if no guarantee of funding was offered.

"If we don't have a guarantee in funding, there are going to be some cuts," she said.

If cuts do need to be made, Ingram said, the board will look at doing this by a reduction in

force through non-tenured teachers.

In regards to possible cuts, she said support personnel will need to have a 15-day notice, which means a decision will need to be made by May 15. As for teachers, she said they need to be notified on or before the last day of school which is Friday, May 30.

Therefore, Ingram said the board will more than likely have to call a meeting or meetings before these dates.

The discussion of capital projects finally reached the point of awarding the bid Thursday evening as ZeDot of Wetumpka received the job of remodeling the office area and library at Zion Chapel Elementary School, installing the air conditioning unit at the New Brockton High School auditorium and replacing the wiring at Kinston.

The company's low bid was for \$348,999, and Ingram rec-

ommended the board accept this bid with the option to negotiate for value engineering.

After awarding the project to ZeDot, the superintendent said the money used to fund these projects is earmarked and can only be used for capital improvement projects.

Ingram said she hopes the company will be able to begin the project around the first of June and complete them while the students are out for the summer vacation.

The board approved several personnel changes Thursday evening including the acceptance of six different retirement requests. The matters accepted included:

Certificated
* Accept the retirement of Diane English, second grade teacher at New Brockton Elementary School, effective

Please See BOE, Page 3

Area Happenings

NEWS BRIEF

The Coffee County Elba Division Grand Jury met in regular session on Tuesday, April 28.

The Grand Jury inspected a total of 105 cases and handed down 94 indictments with 73 of those being felonies and 21 being misdemeanors. The Grand Jury returned 11 on Elba, and no cases were submitted for further prosecution.

At the Elba Division Grand Jury, the Grand Jury was advised that the Elba Division Grand Jury was

SOUTHEAST ALABAMA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, May 8, at the Coffee County Public Center. For more information please call Richard Steele at 334-793-1924 or Al Leggett at 334-366-7540.

UNVEILING OF SPECIAL CIVIL GRANT MARKER DEDICATION for Pvt. William Jasper Martin, husband of Mrs. Alberta Martin, the last known soldier of the War Between the States, will be Sunday, May 10, at 10:30 a.m. at Cook Springs Primitive Baptist Church in Opp. The Opp High School Band will perform, and refreshments will be provided with Mrs. Martin. A Dutch treat lunch will be served at Martin's Cafe after the dedication.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR THE LATE Mrs. Mary Ann (Mama) Williams will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 10, at 6 p.m. at the Elba Division Grand Jury, and at 7:00 p.m. at the Elba Division Grand Jury.

ELBA DIVISION GRAND JURY will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, May 8, at the Coffee County Public Center. For more information please call Richard Steele at 334-793-1924 or Al Leggett at 334-366-7540.



EATERY GETS NEW OWNERS AND NAME...One of Elba's restaurants recently underwent some changes as the former Josie D's became 20/20 Cafe under the ownership of Mitch and Joyce Purvis. Not only do Mitch and Joyce own and operate the restaurant, but they fully represent the meaning of the name. The Elba family operated business with their children, Ben and Sara, also working at the restaurant. The Elba Chamber of Commerce officially welcomed the Purvis family into Elba's food industry last Thursday, May 1, with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Those present included (from left): Junior Miss Elba Cameron Irvin, Sam Cooper, Kaye Whitworth - executive director of the chamber, Doris Matthews, Jeremy Pippin, Barry Giles, Future Little Miss Elba Annsley Padgett, Mitch Purvis - owner, Elba Mayor James Grimes, Laura Prettyman, Jimmy Harrison, Sara Purvis, Little Miss Elba Reagan Kelley, Kenneth Calhoun, Herby McCall and Miss Elba Anna Anderson.